

MEMORANDUM FOR Record

SUBJECT: Minutes of River Resources Forum Meeting #75, 25 April 2006.

1. Introductions / Approve Minutes – A meeting of the River Resources Forum (RRF) was held on 25 April 2006 at Winona State University in Winona, MN. Attached is the attendance list and handouts from the meeting.

2. Next Meetings

Tuesday & Wednesday, August 29 & 30, Wabasha, MN area

Tuesday & Wednesday, December 5 & 6, Bloomington FWS MNR Refuge Office.

3. Agency Activities – Note: Only the agencies listed below had significant information to report.

- A. COE – Dan Krumholz. There is a new chief of Engineering, Mike Barth. Ben Wopat, Assistant Chief of Operations, retired. MVP will be the responsible district for setting up a Recovery Field Office if another hurricane hits Louisiana in 2006. Dan will continue to be the acting Lock & Dam Operations Manager until a new manager is selected within the next couple of weeks. Steve Tapp will continue to be acting Channels & Harbors Operations manager until Dan's return.
- B. FWS – Don Hultman. They are putting the CCP document together that will incorporate comments. There are no more public meetings. The document is scheduled to be released for interagency review on May 24 with the final document to be released in June with a 30-day waiting period. Twin Cities Field supervisor and RRF voting member, Dan Stinentt retired. His position will be filled with acting supervisors until a permanent replacement is hired. Tim Yager is the new McGregor Refuge Manager.
- C. NPS – Steve Johnson. Jo Ann Kyril is retiring. Water Resources is issuing a paper on the Mississippi River. The draft document is scheduled to be released by the end of May.
- D. WDNR – Gretchen Benjamin. Nothing new to report.
- E. WDOT – Larry Kieck. Cassville Ferry received \$400K but can only use for capital improvements, not operations. 3 new planning documents were filed. In Prairie Du Chien, Dillman is planning to move dock off island. In LaCrosse the city wants to enhance the docks for the cruise boats. Also in Prairie Du Chien, 50 wind generators will be shipped, unloaded at Dillman's dock, and trucked to Iowa from August to November.
- F. MNDOT – Dick Lambert. Winona Commercial Harbor dredged 100K material and used for local road expansion and railroad overpass. They are moving their office from Mendota Heights to the central office in St. Paul.
- G. MDNR – Rebecca Wooden. Nothing new to report.

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- H. MPCA – Judy Mader. Clean water legacy. Not sure how it will affect dredging.
- I. IDNR – Mike Griffin. Martin Conrad assigned to the Mississippi River. They denied the permit from Alliant Power in Lansing to fill in the river for the railroad. Construction for Pool Slough is underway.
- 4. Channel Maint. Program – Krumholz, Tapp, Lund, & Machajewski (handout 75 – 1).
 - A. Dredging Business.
 - Surveyors are surveying the river and there is no dredging as of yet.
 - Reads Landing excavation has been awarded to Bay Shore. L.W. Matteson is the subcontractor and will perform the excavation and dredging. They are scheduled to start laying out pipeline in May. They will be using the Dredge Iowa. The placement site is the Wabasha Gravel Pit.
 - The Wabasha Gravel Pit has discarded RR ties that must be removed. It is unknown how many. The OSIT will be kept informed of the issue.
 - B. Channel Mgmt Studies
 - Pool 2: Is. 112 is 90% complete; fines and plantings schedule for spring 2006. Wing dam notching and side channel excavation pending NESP funding. May still pursue under O&M.
 - Pool 5: Islands E1 & E3 90% complete; plantings scheduled for spring 2006.
 - C. Placement Sites
 - Friends of Pool 9 have requested additional sand on the beaches they reshaped this spring near Lansing. The OSIT will meet to discuss the placement of material.
 - The Cargill East site on the MN River is in the planning stage.
 - The fines on Upper Boulanger in Pool 2 could be used as topsoil for other placement sites in the area.
- 5. Lock & Dam 4 Embankment – Neil Helming (COE Project Manager) (handout 75 – 2)
 - Only the terminal groins will be constructed this FY because of funding.
 - Agencies want the fines to come from Clear Lake. Funding was discussed as to whether EMP funds or other funds could be used for the fines.
 - An EA will be written to include options and a public hearing held.

- Dan Krumholz motioned and Gretchen Benjamin seconded to endorse the LD4 Embankment project as outlined in the 24 March 2006 proposal with the caveat: If additional fine material is identified in association with the Teepeeota Point excavation in Fiscal Year 2007 (October 2006-September 2007), such as island construction, or if additional non-O&M funds are received, the Corps will consider other options for fine

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material sources with regards to topping the L&D 4 embankment barrier islands. The motion was endorsed by consensus.

6. Water Level Management – Schlagenhaft (MDNR). (handout 75 – 3, 4, 5)

A. Pool 5 Drawdown:

- There will be no additional dredging for the drawdown.
- Recreation access dredging is approximately 200 cy, but not feasible to send contractor to dredge that small amount.
- Newsletter circulating with initial results of drawdown.

- Gretchen Benjamin (WDNR) made a motion to endorse the second year drawdown for Pool 5 based on the conditions established by the Water Level Task Force (main channel, recreation access, and mussel concerns, etc). Mike Griffin (IDNR) seconded the motion. The motion was endorsed by consensus.

B. Next meeting is scheduled for June in LaCrosse.

- Summarize Pool 5 drawdown and results
- Discuss Pool 9 drawdown

7. Navigation & Environmental Sustainability Program (NESP) – DeZellar (COE) (handout 75 -6)

A. General

- \$10 million PED money was reallocated due to the shift in emphasis to the economic side
- Transferred \$20K to Pool 5 drawdown.
- Public involvement and Institutional arrangements have been pulled

B. Comments

- Gretchen Benjamin made the following comment: As a partner throughout the Reconnaissance Phase, Feasibility Phase and now the NESP PED phase, she did not appreciate the way that the money was reallocated in a vacuum. WDNR appreciated the predicament that higher ups were in as a result of the letter that went to Joshua Bolton but we would have appreciated some information during the shuffle of money toward the economic side of the PED. She further stated it is also important to WDNR and to the RRF that public involvement remain a cornerstone of the NESP process to improve the image of the navigation studies. She clearly stated that these comments were not directed at the COE staff she works with on a regular basis and trusts completely.

8. Environmental Management Program – Powell (COE) (handout 75 - 7)

A. EMP Funding

- \$26.8M in the Presidents FY07 budget; \$5.0M for MVP

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- B. Projects in Construction Phase
 - Spring Lake, Pool Slough, Pool 8 Ph III Stage 1 & 2, Long Meadow Lake.
 - C. Projects in Planning Phase
 - Harpers Slough, Capoli Slough, Conway Lake, Lake Winneshiek
9. Fish & Wildlife Work Group – Yager (FWS)
- A. General
 - Will evaluate dredging in Clear Lake as part of L/D 4 embankment project using EMP funds.
 - Requesting a new chair because Yager has taken a new position in McGregor.
 - Scot Johnson will write an HREP fact sheet for dredging of fine material in the Finger Lakes area (mainly Clear Lake) for use as topsoil on the LD 4 Embankment project.
10. Recreation Work Group – Berg (COE) (handout 75 - 8)
- A. Beach Plans
 - Work on finalizing Pool 9 beach plan
 - B. Recreation Boating Questionnaire
 - Continuing to work on recreation use in Pool 4, 5, and 5A during drawdown with a survey
 - C. Recreation Boat Impacts – Scot Johnson (MDNR)
 - Suggestion to present slide show to marinas for educating public
 - WDNR has money for aerial fly over's for 2007
11. Navigation Work Group – Lambert (MNDOT)
- A. Lake Pepin Ice
 - There was very little ice on the lake this year, so breaking thru the ice with tows was not an issue
 - B. Bouys
 - Tows are not using the LD8 bouy as much as they should

Daniel J Krumholz
Co-Chairman, RRF

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Name	Organization	Phone #	E Mail Address (if different from last RRF)
Paul MacArthur	COE	(608) 687-3114 x 3	Same
Lisa Lund	COE	608-687-3112 x 8	Same
Jeff Gurn	COE - LAD3	608-687-9104	"
Kevin Bora	COE - LAD	507-895-6341	"
Lawrence Kieck	USDOT - Harbor	608-267-7284	"
Ronald Adams	USDOT	608-267-7284	"
Don Hutmam	USFWS - Upper Mid	507-494-6218	"
Mary Stefanski	USFWS - Western	507-494-6229	"
Elliot Stepanik	COE	651-290-5860	"
Neil Melamine	COE	651-290-5558	"
Tom Ficker	FWS - Michigan	5103-873-3483 x 2	"
Sarah Johnson	MDNR - Lake Co	651-245-5601	"
Steve Johnson	MDNR - Lake Co	651-240-3805 x 23	"
Rebecca Johnson	MDNR	651-359-5717	"
Steve Topf	COE	607-296-7315	Same
Don Powell	COE	608-687-3112 x 2	"
Jeff Doeller	COE	651-290-5402	"
Alan Krumholz	COE	651-290-5433	"
Martin Kowald	IDA DNR	515-281-6976	"
Mike Griffin	IDA DNR	503-878-5200	Martin Kowald @ dnr.state.wi.us
Mike Schlegel	MDNR	507-288-5058	Michael.Griffin@dnr.state.wi.us
Dick Kuyper	MDNR	507-288-5058	Same
Ken Schaefer	MDNR	507-288-5058	Same
John Fischer	MDNR	507-288-5058	Same

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